

Session 7 China part 1

Activity 4

2nd Sino Japanese war and the weaponization of sexual assault

Per the Department of State website

<https://2001-2009.state.gov/r/pa/ho/pubs/fs/90689.htm>

1937: Second Sino-Japanese War

In July, Chinese and Japanese forces clashed at the Marco Polo Bridge outside of Beijing, and the conflict quickly escalated as simmering tensions turned into full-scale war. The Japanese Army swept down from Manchuria and along the coast to Shanghai, where Chinese troops put up a spirited defense before finally giving way. The Japanese military then pushed inland, with their assault reaching a destructive peak in the Rape of Nanjing in November. Just before the Japanese overran the capital, the Nationalist Government fled inland to the city of Chongqing, where it remained for the duration of the war. Some U.S. citizens became involved in an international effort to protect tens of thousands of Chinese in the International Settlement in Nanjing and to publicize Japanese actions there.

Graphic Warning:

Survey and summarize 1937 and the 2nd Sino-Japanese War touching on or focusing on the Rape of Nanking.

Note the prevalence of sexual assault during the Rape of Nanking.

Does “rape” in this case refer only to sexual assault? If not, what is included in the broader definition?

Examine by surveying other wars, genocides, and/or other mass human rights violations. Note if similar incidents of sexual assault were present. Is it present in one of the events (war, genocide, mass human rights violations) more so than another?

Using the United Nations website and starting at this link

<https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/genocide.shtml>

Locate if/under which of the four definitions does sexual assault appear.

